

Rope access harness

- A full body harness is used for rope access work positioning and is suspension work equipment as opposed to simple PPE. This is a much superior harness to the personal protective equipment fall arrest harness which is only designed to catch an operative in the event of a fall and which only allows some 25-30 minutes in suspension before trauma sets in. The full body rope access harness allows work positioning for considerable periods of suspension time due to its ergonomically superior design.
- Whilst this is a one person piece of equipment it is not “PPE or Personal Protective Equipment” in the usual sense but provides suspension equipment in conjunction with the twin-roped IRATA methods and anchorage installations of Rope Access for relatively lightweight maintenance operations on buildings.
- In conjunction with suitable training and controls this provides equally acceptably safe methods of cleaning access as BMU’s and cradles which only offer their occupants fall arrest protection in the event of a fall occurring.
- However, the WAH regulations suggest that cradle awareness is higher on the hierarchy of safety for site activities, if possible.

